

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-07

SCI-06 OMB-01 EURE-00 DODE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

AID-20 IGA-02 COME-00 HEW-08 DRC-01 /145 W

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P 081300Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3977

UNCLAS ANKARA 3486

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS ON OPIUM

REF: STATE 94058

1. TURKISH PRESS MAY 8 GAVE HEAVY COVERAGE TO NYTIMES REPORT THAT US INTENDS TO PLANT OPIUM TO COVER SHORTFALL IN DOMESTIC NEEDS CAUSED BY TURKISH BAN. PROMINENT ATTENTION ALSO GIVEN TO PULITZER AWARD TO NEWSDAY FOR ITS SERIOL ON "THE HERION TRAIL." SOME PAPERS COMBINED THE STORIES.

2. FRONT-PAGE ITEMS WERE CARRIED BY GUNAYDIN (CIRC: 384,000), CUMHURIYET (80,000), MILLIYET (255,000), TERCUMAN (340,000; AND ON PAGE 3 IN HURRIEYT (480,000).

3. THE STORIES VARIED IN LENGTH BUT ESSENTIALLY WERE BASED ON THE TIMES ARTICLE AS CARRIED IN TUESDAY'S EDITION OF NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE. MAIN POINTS WERE: WHITE HOUSE PLANNING TO MEET THIS WEEK WITH US PHARMACEUTICAL FIRMS, WHO PUTTING PRESSURE ON GOVERNMENT TO BEGIN DOMESTIC OPIUM POPPY PLANTATION TO PRODUCE 160 TONS ANNUALLY, BECAUSE OF SHORTFALL WORLD SUPPLY
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DUE TURKEY'S BAN. SITES GIVEN AS WALLA WALLA, WASH.,

AND PHOENIX, ARIZ., AND THREE DRUG FIRMS--MALLIN
CHORDT CHEMICAL WORKS OF ST. LOUIS, MERCK & CO OF
NEW JERSEY AND S.B. PENICK OF NEW YORK--WERE NAMED
AS THOSE SEEKING U.S. PLANTATION. DECISION ON U.S.
PLANTATION WOULD NOT BE MADE UNTIL TURKISH GOVERNMENT
ANNOUNCES ITS INTENTIONS ON WHETHER TO RESUME PLANTATION.
KISSINGER VISIT TO TURKEY ALSO AWAITS GOT DECISION.

4. WEDNESDAY'S PAPERS CARRIED NO COMMENTARIES ON SUBJECT,
BUT SUCH MAY BE EXPECTED IN COMING DAYS.

5. USIS ISSUED FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE MID-DAY MAY 8:
THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY TODAY STATED THAT THE UNITED
STATES DOES NOT INTEND TO GROW OPIUM FOR DOMESTIC
CONSUMPTION. THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO CONTINUE TO
MEET ITS DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION REQUIREMENTS THROUGH
IMPORTS.

THE UNITED STATES IS SUPPORTING RESEARCH WHICH IS
CONDUCTED AND COORDINATED BY THE NARCOTICS LABORATORY
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DIVISION OF NARCOTICS DRUGS ON
EFFICIENT AND SAFE WASY TO PRODUCE MEDICINAL OPIATES
FROM THE OPIUM POPPY. THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT PLAN
TO PLANT POPPIES IN THE UNITED STATES FOR SUCH RESEARCH.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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